

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04868 010836Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SP-02 OES-07  
SS-15 NSC-05 DOE-15 SOE-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
PA-01 CEQ-01 INT-05 TRSE-00 /098 W  
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R 311844Z MAR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7859  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 04868

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: CSCE, EEC, ECE, SENV, ENRG, XH  
SUBJECT: EASTERN VIEWS ON ECE 33RD SESSION

REF: STATE 79059

1. IN CONTACTS WITH EASTERN EUROPEANS WE STILL ENCOUNTER  
DIFFICULTY IN GETTING THEM TO TELL US IN DETAIL PRECISELY  
WHAT TOPICS THEY WOULD LIKE AN ENVIRONMENT HIGH-LEVEL  
MEETING TO DISCUSS. IN LUNCHEON BETWEEN MISSION DCM AND  
SOVIET COUNTERPART, BORCHTCHEVSKI, IT APPEARS THAT WHAT  
THE SOVIETS SEE IN SUCH A MEETING IS PRIMARILY A MEANS OF  
MOLDING PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF OUR OVERALL RELATIONSHIP.  
FOLLOWING MUCH THE SAME LINE AS THAT TAKEN BY HIS COL-  
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04868 010836Z

LEAGUE, ORNATSKI, DURING THE LATTER'S DISCUSSION WITH OUR  
E/C COUNSELOR AT A RECEPTION IN MOSCOW (REPORTED MOSCOW  
5620) BORCHTCHEVSKI ARGUED PRIMARILY THAT WE SHOULD HAVE  
A HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON ENVIRONMENT IN ORDER TO IMPROVE  
THE TONE OF OUR RELATIONS. WHEN ASKED WHAT CONCRETE RE-  
SULTS HE SAW COMING OUT OF SUCH A MEETING, HE WAS AT A  
LOSS TO DESCRIBE THEM EXCEPT TO SAY THAT THE NORDICS

WOULD BREATHE BETTER AIR.

2. POLISH CONTACT IN RECENT CONVERSATION WAS ALSO VAGUE IN DISCUSSING THE NUMBER OF TOPICS EAST DESIRES TO TAKE UP AT POSSIBLE HLM ON ENVIRONMENT AND SAID THAT ALL FIVE MENTIONED TOPICS IN E/ECE/936 COULD BE CONSIDERED. THIS IS LINKED WITH THE EXPLANATION THAT MINISTERS CAN MEET FIRST AND INFORM ENVIRONMENT EXPERTS ON WHICH TOPICS TO PREPARE FOR MEETING (I.E., THREE-STAGE MEETING IDEA). U.S. MESSAGE THAT ONE MUST NARROW NUMBER OF TOPICS AND PREPARE THEM WELL IF ONE IS GOING TO HAVE SERIOUS MEETING AND THAT DELEGATES SHOULD COME PREPARED TO 33RD SESSION TO DISCUSS WHAT THEY WANT TO ACHIEVE WITH REGARD TO EACH TOPIC STILL HASN'T GOTTEN THROUGH.

3. OF GREATER CONCERN TO EAST IS QUESTION OF TIMING OF MEETING. WE HAVE INDICATIONS FROM SECRETARIAT THAT EAST WILL PUSH VERY HARD FOR COMMITMENT TO HOLD ENVIRONMENT HLM WITHIN A YEAR OF 33RD COMMISSION SESSION AND THIS IS LIKELY TO BE MAJOR STICKING POINT AT SESSION. THUS, PARADOXICALLY, THE EAST IS PUSHING FOR AN EARLY MEETING, BUT HAS NOT ENDEAVORED TO NARROW THE LIST OF TOPICS OR TO TALK IN THE KIND OF DETAIL THAT WOULD FACILITATE THE HOLDING OF AN EARLY MEETING.

4. ON BREZHNEV PROPOSALS FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT HLMS,  
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 04868 010836Z

POLISH CONTACT SAID EAST WILL PUSH FOR SEPARATE RESOLUTION AT 33RD SESSION ON THEM BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THIS WILL GIVE MORE PROMINENCE TO THE PROPOSALS. OF COURSE, IF THE WEST IS WILLING TO AGREE TO START SAME PROCESS TOWARD AN ENERGY HLM AS WAS AGREED ON ENVIRONMENT LAST YEAR, THE EAST WOULD NOT OBJECT TO INCLUDING DECISION ON ENERGY HLM IN AN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION. ON CZECH LETTER TO HAVE AN-NOTATED LIST OF TOPICS PROPOSED FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT HLM CIRCULATED AT 33RD SESSION, POLE SAID THAT EAST NOW ONLY WANTS COMPILATION OF VARIDUS TOPICS PROPOSED IN THE PAST FOR HLM ON ENERGY AND TRANSPORT SO THAT SECRETARIAT CAN PROCEED TO AN ANALYSIS AFTER COMMISSION SESSION.

5. WE UNDERSTAND FROM SEVERAL SOURCES THAT EAST IS NOT INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHMENT OF SENIOR ADVISERS ON ENERGY UNLESS IN CONNECTION WITH DECISION ON HLM ON ENERGY. POLISH REP ALSO TOSSED OUT ARGUMENT THAT THERE WOULD ALSO BE PROBLEMS OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SENIOR ADVISERS ON ENERGY AND OTHER PRINCIPLE SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN ENERGY FIELD (I.E., COAL, GAS, AND ELECTRIC POWER) IN THAT THEY WOULD BE SUBORDINATED TO SENIOR ADVISERS. THIS THEY SEE AS NOT A SATISFACTORY SITUATION, BUT OF COURSE SUCH

PROBLEMS WOULD DISAPPEAR IF WEST WERE TO AGREE TO ENERGY  
HLM. VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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